

*TOWN OF TIVERTON RHODE ISLAND*

*HARBOR COMMISSION*

*343 HIGHLAND ROAD  
TIVERTON RHODE ISLAND 02878*

*John McEwing, Chairman  
David Stewart, Vice-Chairman  
Harris Gruber, Secretary  
Bob Dixon  
Roger Winiarski  
Frank diMauro  
Bruce Cox*

*Contact: John McEwing  
Email: sv906905@netscape.net  
Telephone: 401-624-2276*

*MINUTES OF MEETING*

*February 1, 2010*

*Members present: John McEwing, David Stewart, Harris Gruber, Bob Dixon, Roger Winiarski, Frank di Mauro, Bruce Cox, Harbormaster Dave Vannier.*

*Guests present: Charlie Smith, 128 Riverside Drive; Jim Porter, Riverside Drive*

*The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM, Chairman John McEwing presiding.*

*The Minutes of the January 11 meeting were approved.*

*CORRESPONDENCE:*

*1 – Kevin Cute CRMC will attend 3/1/2010 meeting*

*2 – A letter was received from David Beutel/CRMC Aquaculture, regarding the proposed oyster farm operation in Nanaquaket Pond; a meeting locally is being arranged for all interested parties.*

*3 – A letter was received from long-time resident Richard Toolin, requesting alternative mooring arrangements; complex explanation, involving old/now illegal moorings and permission from others to use their moorings.*

*4 – Harbormaster Dave Vannier presented his proposed letter to Mr. Tollin, denying his request, as it did not comply with regulations.*

*5 – Harbormaster wrote a letter to Jonathan Peckham, regarding illegal dock in Sin and Flesh Brook.*

*OLD BUSINESS -*

*1 – Pulley line moorings:*

*a – Jim Porter, Riverside Drive, had earlier requested permission to use a pulley line mooring for his 18' boat on his shoreline property on Riverside Drive. Questions arose as to whether a boat this size would be allowed on a pulley-line mooring. CRMC 300.4 regarding "outhauls" applies. CRMC may authorize, if on contiguous property(of boatowner). Up to two pulley lines permitted per property. CRMC rule 300.18 also applies. Must follow dictates of the Tiverton Harbor Management Plan. CRMC may revoke permission if there is a conflict. Request must be renewed between 11/15 and 4/15. Must be a continuous loop device. Possible "grandfathering", subject to Harbormaster approval. Otherwise, regular mooring application applies. This is considered a mooring. If a dock is built on the property, the pulley line must be removed. The original intent of the rule was to provide shoreside residents who go clamming with easy access for their small boats. Thus, no fee for pulley lines, but they must be registered as moorings. Question: How to proceed? For riparian property owners only?*

*3 – Quality Yachts/Trinity Marina development: Discussion (no representatives of Quality Yachts/Trinity present). Questions about amending permits to encompass altered plans for development by new owners, especially with regard to a proposed swimming pool and altered parking capacity resulting from same. Some new RI state regulations may also apply.*

*4 – At a meeting at the Bristol Yacht Club in January, attended by representatives of the Narragansett Bay Yachting Association SAVE THE BAY, and other town and club representatives, the U.S. Coast Guard said that they have never received notices from the various clubs planning races and other aquatic events. Such notice is required by law to be printed and announced in the Weekly Notices to Mariners. The yacht clubs in Newport post these notices in a timely manner. Objections to these statements were put forward, various NBYA members saying notices were so posted in the required manner. The USCG statement was that they had not received such communications. Others said that indeed such notices were usually printed and broadcast.*

*5 – Weavers Cove/LNG Shipping: Also in late January, a public hearing was held to discuss LNG issues. The meeting was attended by Rep. Loughlin and numerous other State Representatives and Senators, all of whom object to the proposal on various safety, traffic and navigation grounds. With the advent of a new Commandant of the First Coast Guard District (Eastport ME to the Shrewsbury River NJ), the USCG previous objection to these proposwalshas been reversed. In opposition to the plan are almost all (if not all) towns on Narraganzett Bay, plus the Rhode Island Marine Trades Association, SAVE THE BAY, and innumerable neighborhood associations in many of the towns, plus the City of Fall River. There has been considerable press on the subject, including a constant stream in the Sakonnet Times.*

*It was reported that the Narragansett Bay Pilots Association is in favor of the proposal, as are the building trades unions.*

*Discussion: Speak to the Tiverton Conservation Commission, Tiverton Yacht Club, and RIMTA on the matter. Ask Town Administrator for the Town's (reported) Resolution against the LNG proposal.*

*Note: Purportedly, the mooring terminus for the large ships (950' in length) will be in Tiverton Town waters.*

*6 – Regarding possible funding for the Stone Bridge Restoration, some mention was made of \$135,000 in funds for destruction of the old Jamestown Bridge that had not been used. Representative Edwards was mentioned in this connection. No action taken*

*7 – Discussion took place on an area Evacuation Plan, in the event of a disaster or extreme storm. No action taken.*

*8 – It was decided to discuss with the Town Administrator what the disposition of debris from the old Main Road sidewalks, plus prospective construction debris from the Sakonnet River Bridge construction might be, with the intent to sequester same as fill for the Stone Bridge, including sheet metal piling material and concrete.*

*9 – State Fishing Licenses. New law mandating state fishing licenses for individuals. Discussion. No action taken.*

*10 – Possibility of a Town Wharf being created as an offshoot of the new bridge construction, possibly creating opportunities for visiting boaters to shop in the Harbor area and that it might provide another element for developing street fairs and festivals, as a means of generating revenue for future development of the area. Noted for inclusion in HC promotion of Stone Bridge restoration and developing a group of Volunteers to assist in these and other HC efforts.*

*11 – Harbormaster Job Description. Subcommittee continuing work. No action taken.*

*12 – Mooring Vendors: Regulations, Liability Insurance, Discussion. No action taken.*

*13 – Proposed Harbormaster and law enforcement jurisdiction of surface waters, Portsmouth and Tiverton; “cross-authority”; proposal by Harbormaster;*

*discussion. No action taken.*

*14 – Mooring Inspections: Discussion: Certified Divers – posting a list of same on the Town website; two or three year inspection intervals; if two-year intervals, then perhaps requiring such inspections for even-numbered moorings one year, odd-numbered the next; no action taken.*

*15 – Possible informal “blogging” of waterfront issues and activities in Tiverton, so as to keep issues and upcoming events handy for opportune action and inclusion on future HC agendas.*

*Meeting was adjourned at 9:55 PM.*

*Respectfully submitted - Harris Gruber, Secretary*

*All residents and other interested parties are invited to attend any of our meetings and to provide pertinent input. If you would like to receive email/mailed copies of our Agendas and Minutes, please contact: Harris Gruber, Secretary [varnishman@cox.net](mailto:varnishman@cox.net) or 843-906-6682.*